

will be a bad dog." So great is the love the Indian bears for certain localities, that some tribes when about to leave their country, go through a regular funeral ceremony, and burn the scalps which their ancestors may have gotten in their several wars. Since the use of fire-arms among them, the ceremony closes with a discharge of several guns.

Thanksgiving

Instead of thanksgiving after the gifts from on high are received, the Indian invokes in advance the blessing which we take as our own right.

In early spring, as soon as the waters will float the light canoe, all the different bands assemble at a certain spot in view of the coming planting time, to call upon the Great Spirit, *Kichi-Manitou*, to look down upon them, to see, learn, and pity their wants.

In all Indian nations there are many tribes, as they are called. For instance, the bands who live near the water, subsist upon fish, wild rice and wild potatoes, which grow upon the borders of the rivers. They are good navigators as well as swimmers. Then there are those who live in the interior of the country, who are good hunters, good horsemen, and good warriors, living on meat almost exclusively. But both will plant corn.

In their meeting, each band will adhere to its own mode of living. The first band mentioned making a feast of fish, the other band a feast of meat, but each partakes of the others' feast.

The first fruits of the season must be offered to the Great Spirit. A man who will eat, or use in any manner, the first fish he catches in the spring, need expect no good luck through the year. So with the first deer, or any other game, and so too with the corn; first of each must serve as an offering to *Kichi-Manitou*. Even now, the Indians who have not been Christianized, adhere to this custom.

The Gods of the Indians

Indians believe in many gods. One class adore the sun, moon, stars, and the thunder; another worship birds and beasts. A turtle is one of their favorite gods. An Indian offers a sacrifice to his idols. When a sacrifice is offered to beasts, a dog is usually